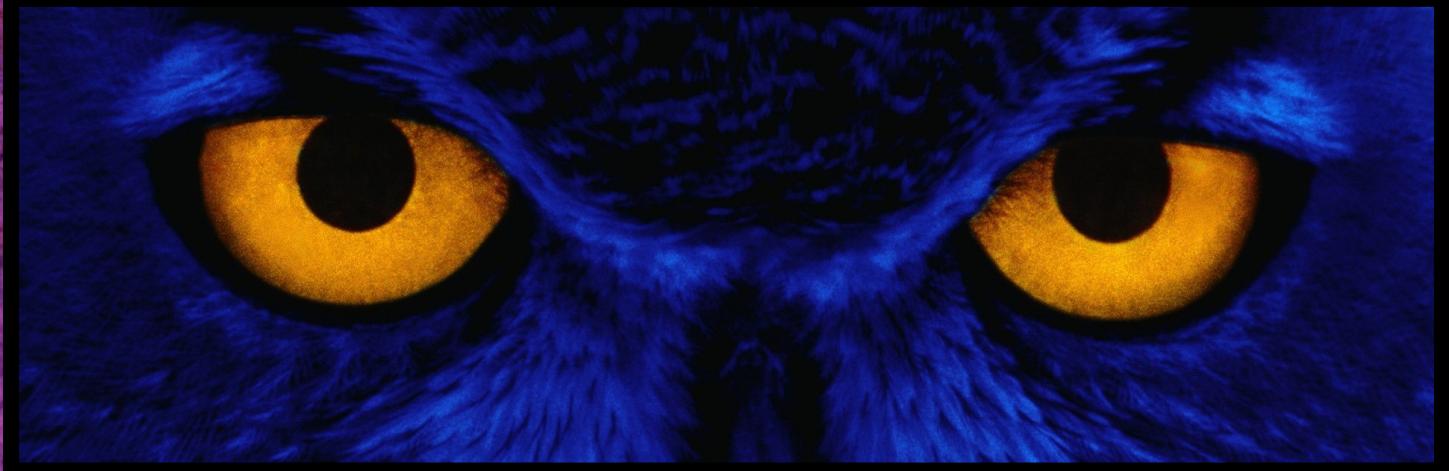


2018-2019 THEATRE SEASON
TALL AND TWISTED TALES

BLINN COLLEGE DIVISION OF VISUAL/PERFORMING ARTS AND KINESIOLOGY

BRENHAM CAMPUS



H.G. WELL'S
**THE ISLAND OF
DR. MOREAU**

ADAPTED BY ROBERT KAULZLARIC

RESOURCE GUIDE

This resource guide serves as an educational starting point to understanding and enjoying Robert Kauzlaric's stage adaptation of H.G. Well's *The Island of Dr. Moreau*. With this in mind, please note that the interpretations of the theatrical work may differ from the original source content.

2018 THEATRE ARTS FACULTY SHOWCASE



**Directed by
JENNIFER PATRICK**

**Technical Theatre Direction by
KEVIN PATRICK**

**Costume, Makeup, and Hair Design by
JENNIFER PATRICK**

**Featuring
BRAD NIES AS DR. MOREAU**

**Produced by Special Arrangement with
PLAYSCRIPTS, INC.**

SYNOPSIS

Having survived a shipwreck and rescued by brutish sailors, Edward Prendick finds himself on an island ruled by the disgraced Dr. Moreau. Ruthlessly pursuing what he believes to be God's work, Moreau experiments on living creatures and fills his dystopia with a menagerie of tortured Beast Folk desperate to obey laws they cannot comprehend.



PERFORMANCES

October 11-13

7 p.m.

October 14

2 p.m.

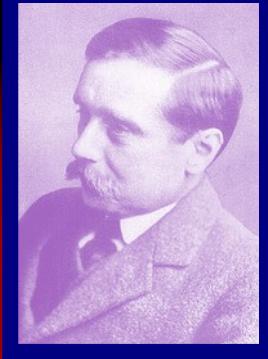
**Dr. W.W. O'Donnell
Performing Arts Center Auditorium
Brenham, Texas**

**Tickets can be purchased in advance online at www.blinn.edu/BoxOffice,
by calling 979-830-4024,
or by emailing BoxOffice@blinn.edu**

HERBERT GEORGE WELLS

THE FATHER OF SCIENCE FICTION

(1866-1946)



H.G. Wells was an English writer who is often referred to as the Father of Science Fiction. His works usually focused on the advancement of military transportation, travels in space, time travel, and biological engineering. As a teacher, artist, and writer, Wells' early works were considered "scientific romances," while his later works were based on politics for the time. He is also known for his commentaries regarding the quality of literature and other forms of art.

ROBERT KAUZLARIC

PLAYWRIGHT, ACTOR, AND DIRECTOR



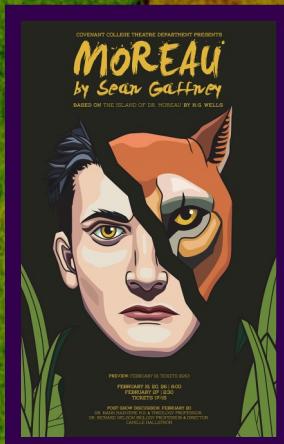
Based out of Chicago, Robert Kauzlaric is a playwright, actor, and director. A member of the Lifetime Theatre and the Irish Theatre of Chicago, Kauzlaric also serves as the Artistic Associate for the Michigan Shakespeare Festival. He is the recipient of five of Chicago's Non-Equity Jeff Awards for his adaptation of H.G. Well's *The Island of Dr. Moreau*, and he was commissioned by the Illinois Shakespeare Festival to produce a stage version of Alexandre Dumas' *The Three Musketeers*.

ADAPTATIONS OF THE ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU



The Island of Dr. Moreau (1977)-Starring Burt Lancaster and Michael York, this film premiered on July 13th in the United States. The film received mixed reviews, however, the performances of Lancaster and York were highly praised.

The Island of Dr. Moreau (1996)-Starring Marlon Brando and Val Kilmer, this unsuccessful film was released on August 23rd in the United States. Due to ill will between some actors, this film is known for having one of the most troubled production processes in Hollywood history.



Moreau (1999)-This stage version of Well's novel was written by Sean Gaffney and premiered at Seattle, Washington's Taproot Theatre Company on February 9th. This work has since been produced by other theatre companies.

The Island of Moreau (2017)-This award-winning, full-cast audio drama stars Ronald Pickup and John Heffernan. It was released in July by Big Finish Productions as part of their Series of Classic Works.



THEMES IN THE ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU



Man vs. The Natural World: H. G. Wells' book attempts to break down the barriers between mankind and nature and show that they are one and the same. Like the Beast Folk in the novel, human beings come from nature.



Advances in Science and Technology: During Well's time, the theory of evolution had the public concerned that such advances were destroying religion and morality. Wells attempts to explore the balance between science and the so-called pillars of society.



Morals and Ethics: In this story, the questions of morals and ethics do not focus on the idea of right and wrong. Rather, they focus on whether or not these concepts should be bothered with in the grand scheme of things.



Society and Class: In *The Island of Dr. Moreau*, society and class are seen as illusions designed to keep humans happy. Like the Beast Folk, society and class structure are fragile and make break at any time.



Primitive Instincts: In his book, Wells wants the reader to see primitive instincts as something inside of us. That they are remnants of what our primitive ancestors left in our brains.



Suffering: The work asks the question, "Do animals suffer the way humans do?" In addition, it questions whether or not our suffering even matters. These were important issues during Wells' time.



HEY, TEACHERS!

This theatre is a proud member of the Theatre Collective of the Brazos Valley. This organization has been kind enough to develop the following rules of theatre etiquette. Please review these rules with your students to assure that all audience members enjoy the show!

- 1. Be on time by being in your seat 10 minutes before the performance is scheduled to begin. Live theatre begins at the published performance time with a darkened theatre and actors frequently in the aisles ready for entrances. Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the theatre and in locations chosen by the theatre.**
- 2. Remain seated until intermission and until curtain calls are completed to allow performers free access to the exits. If an emergency requires leaving your seat, please remain outside the theatre until allowed to return by the theatre's volunteer staff.**
- 3. Finish and/or discard all food and drinks before entering the theatre. Community theatres in the Brazos Valley use volunteers to clean debris from the theatre and restrooms. Please be respectful of these volunteers by disposing of your own trash.**
- 4. Silence or turn off all electronic devices, including cell phones, beepers, and watch alarms. You are encouraged to share your theatre experience via social media, but you must refrain from sharing or texting during the performance. The glow from all media is easily discernable in the dark theatre and is distracting to your neighbors and the actors.**
- 5. Video and flash photography of live performances is not allowed. Community theatres in the Brazos Valley do not purchase the rights to tape live performances. Actors will generally be available for photographs after the show.**
- 6. Tickets and programs will be provided for all students who need to receive credit for attending theatre performances. The Theatre Collective of the Brazos Valley provides a stamp for proof of attendance after every performance.**
- 7. To allow all patrons easy access to theatre seating, saving more than one seat for a late-comer or volunteer is not allowed.**
- 8. Please refrain from talking during the performance.**
- 9. Your courtesy is much appreciated as it allows for the ultimate experience of theatre productions for all our patrons.**

SOURCES

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